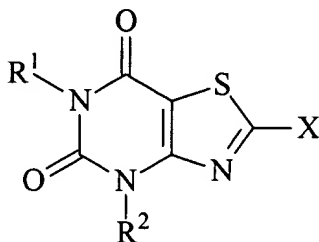


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (I):



wherein R¹ is -Z-A wherein Z is (a) C₁-C₇ alkyl, optionally interrupted with 1-2 double bonds, 1-2 nonperoxide O, or 1-2 NR wherein R is individually H, phenyl, benzyl, C₂-C₄ alkanoyl or C₁-C₆ alkyl; (b) C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl; (c) C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl C₁-C₃ alkyl; (d) C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or (e) C₆-C₁₀ aryl C₁-C₃ alkyl;

A is N(R)₂, C₂-C₄ acyloxy, SO₃H, PO₄H₂, N(NO)(OH), SO₂NH₂, PO(OH)NH₂, OH, SO₂R³, tetrazolyl, or COOR³ wherein R³ is H, phenyl, benzyl or C₁-C₆ alkyl optionally substituted with 1-2 OR, heteroaryl, C₆-C₁₀ aryl, C₂-C₄ alkenyl, phenyl, tetrazolyl or an amino acid residue formed by the removal of a hydrogen atom from the -COOH group of an amino acid;

R² is a C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₄ alkenyl, C₆-C₁₀ aryl C₁-C₂ alkyl or C₆-C₁₀ heteroaryl C₁-C₂ alkyl;

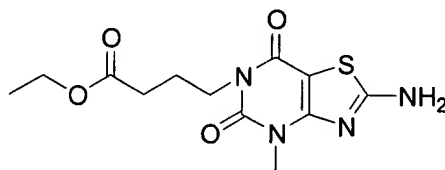
X is H, halo, OR, SR, N₃ or N(R)₂; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein Z is (C₂-C₆)alkyl or phenyl.
3. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 or 2 wherein A is CO₂R³.

4. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 3 wherein R^3 is H or (C_1-C_6) alkyl, optionally substituted with OH, C_6-C_{10} heteroaryl or ~~an ester of an~~ the amino acid residue.
5. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 4 wherein ~~the ester of~~ the amino acid is an L-valine residue or L-glycine residue.
6. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 4 wherein R^3 is (C_1-C_6) alkyl substituted with 4-pyridyl.
7. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 or 2 wherein -Z-A is ethoxycarbonylpropyl.
8. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 or 2 wherein X is NH_2 .
9. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 or 2 wherein R^2 is CH_3 or $CH_2CH_2CH_3$.
10. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

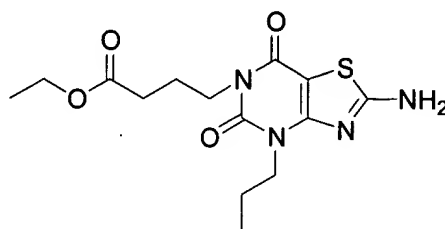
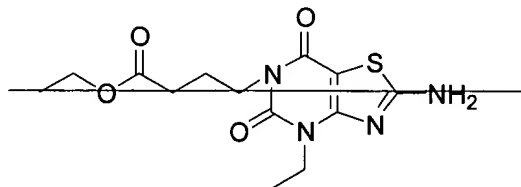
Claims 11-19 (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 having the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1 having the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.